

September 6, 2005

To: Mark Rey    USDA Under Secretary  
                    Natural Resources and Environment

- 1.)    The price of wheat has to improve to keep agriculture going in the Power County area. We dry farm and summer fallow farm. The prices of everything we buy has gone up tremendously, fuel, machinery parts, fertilizer, chemicals, cars, trucks, insurance, but my **wages have not**.
- 2.)    Farm Policy on US competitiveness—the policy we have now has nothing to do with the world markets. The price support system doesn't affect the commodity markets---it barely keeps wheat agriculture alive.
- 3.)    Farm Policy Design—the way it is right now or similar—we need to forget about the WIO. Unless we are going to import agriculture like oil. I already work for less than minimum wage and feel like second class citizens. Also, CSP needs to be changed to best management practices for our area instead of organic matter. We all don't no-till or can because of precipitations.
- 4.)    Conservations and environmental goals—we need money in the CSP program and make it available to all growers using pest management practices for there general plant area not just for the Midwest.
- 5.)    Assistance in rural areas—Agriculture is responsible for 25% of the jobs in these communities. The more government money in price support will be spent in our towns. I get tired of going to reunion and listening to people my age saying they are going to retire. They work for the railroad, Idaho Power, INEL and other businesses that pay them a decent wage and benefits of health insurance and retirement funds. The farmer does not have those benefits, yet we are the food suppliers.

Sincerely Yours,



Ivan Permann  
Box 386  
2930 Orders Lane  
American Falls, Idaho 83211

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARIAT, USDA

2005 OCT -4 P 12: 02

COPIES: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_